

Message Text

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TAGS: ECON, PINT, CA

SUBJECT: NOVA SCOTIA MINISTER OF LABOR WALTER FITZGERALD
DISCUSSES PRIME MINISTER'S RECENT REMARKS ON GREATER CONTROLS

REF: CONGEN TEL 006

1. IN INTERVIEW OF JANUARY 6 WITH CBC RADIO, MINISTER WALTER FITZGERALD TOOK ISSUE WITH PRIME MINISTER ON NEED FOR EVER GREATER CONTROLS OVER ECONOMIC LIFE IN CANADA. SAID THAT HE CONTINUED TO BELIEVE IN FREE ECONOMY AND THAT HE GREATLY DIFFERED ON NEED FOR MORE AND MORE CONTROLS OF VARIOUS ASPECTS OF LIFE IN CANADA. HE SAID THAT HE SAW A CLEAVAGE COMING WITHIN THE LIBERAL PARTY IF THE PRIME MINISTER'S VIEWS BECOME PARAMOUNT PARTY DOCTRINE.

2. IN SEPARATE DISCUSSION ON LABOR, MINISTER SAID THAT HE FORECAST ROUGH YEAR FOR LABOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS IN THE PROVINCE UNLESS FIRM GUIDELINES ARE ESTABLISHED. IF THE ANTI-INFLATION BOARD CONTINUES TO BE WISHY-WASHY, THERE WILL BE LABOR-MANAGEMENT STRIFE . HE
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SUGGESTED THE ANTI-INFLATION BOARD WILL HAVE TO BE FIRM

AND FAIR AND CANNOT WASTE TOO MUCH TIME IN ESTABLISHING
GUIDELINES. THE LONGER IT TAKES TO ESTABLISH
THESE GUIDELINES THE MORE UNCERTAINTY AND UNREST WILL
ENSUE. (WHILE THIS MAY SEEM INCONSISTENT WITH PARA ONE,
IS PROBABLY NOT SO AS FITZGERALD, THOUGH FEARFUL OF
IMPOSITION OF MORE AND MORE CONTROLS BY FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT, IS VERY ANXIOUS TO ACHIEVE PEACE IN LABOR
SCENE IN NOVA SCOTIA WITH LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY.
MANBEY

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